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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Epping Rural District

For the Year 1918.

Buckhurst Hill:
John W. Phelp, Printer, Queen's Road,
1919.

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EPPING RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1918.

GENTLEMEN,

Owing to my absence on Military Service during the whole of the year 1918, I am unable to give you a full report regarding the health of the District. I am, therefore, limiting myself to the following statement :—

During the year (1918) the number of children born was 190. This equals a birth rate of 14.01 per thousand of the total population. Of this number, 190, 102 were male children and 88 female. There were 11 illegitimate births also included in the figure 190.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year old was 14, which gives an infantile mortality rate of 73.6 per 1,000 births.

The total number of deaths from all causes was 195, which equals a death rate of 16.12 per 1,000.

For the purposes of comparison the following table may be useful :—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
England and Wales	17.7	17.6	97
96 Great Towns, including London	17.6	18.2	106
148 Smaller Towns...	17.9	16.1	94
London	16.1	18.9	107
Epping Rural District	14.01	16.12	73.6

154 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. Of these,

95 were measles,
18 ,, chicken pox,
18 ,, diphtheria,
8 ,, scarlet fever,
12 ,, tuberculosis,
2 ,, erysipelas, and
1 was typhoid.

I attach a summary of the work done by Mr. Beard, Chief Sanitary Inspector, also a note by him of various requirements that it is hoped will be put in hand in the future.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. F. ERSKINE,
M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
(Medical Officer of Health).

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1918.

	Total Number for Year.
Complaints received	13
Nuisances detected without complaint	114
Nuisances abated	124
Nuisances remaining unabated	6
Formal Notices served	3
Summonses taken out	1
Convictions obtained	1
Lodging-houses inspected	—
Slaughter-houses inspected (frequency of inspection—frequently)	9
Bakehouses inspected (frequency of inspection—frequently) ...	12
Dairies and Milk Shops inspected	—
Cowsheds inspected (frequency of inspection—half-yearly) ...	59
No. of Samples of Milk taken for examination for cleanliness, tubercle bacilli, etc.	—
Filthy Houses cleansed (sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875) ...	—
Houses disinfected...	21
Overcrowding abated	1
Houses erected or re-built for which Water "Certificates" were applied	—
"Certificates" granted	—
"Certificates" deferred	—
Public Wells, total No. in district	9
New Public Wells sunk or improved supplies of Water afforded ...	—
Wells cleansed or repaired	4
Wells closed	—
Privies, No. in district	560
Privies, No. abolished during the year	2
Pail Closets, No. in district	1,055
Water Closets, No. in district without flushing cistern	463
Water Closets, with flushing cisterns...	1,453
Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water ...	7
Water cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered	—
Animals improperly kept removed	2
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	—
Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding... ...	—
Seizures of unsound Meat, &c.	20

The chief requirements to be carried out in the future are :—

1. The Sewerage of Sheering.
2. Extension of the Water Mains to Matching Green.
3. ,, ,, ,, Epping Green.
4. The Laying of a Sewer along Woodside, North Weald, to connect up to the Thornwood System.
5. The provision of several hundred New Houses and the re-construction or repair of many of the Old Houses.

WALTER BEARD, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.